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Application No. 09/941,151
Preliminary Amendment dated February 15, 2006

Listing of Claims

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Claims 1-119 (canceled)

120.(currently amended) A method of providing a custom orthodontic appliance for repositioning teeth of a patient, the method comprising:

providing for display on a computer screen, with interaction by an operator, data of images of the teeth of the patient in suggested post-treatment tooth positions and orientations that are based on three-dimensional information of the shapes of the teeth of the patient;

receiving feedback information on the suggested post-treatment positions and orientations from a person, other than the operator, who has interactively viewed a display of the provided images on the computer screen; and

providing a custom orthodontic appliance configured to reposition teeth of the patient based on the suggested tooth positions and orientations in accordance with the feedback information.

121.(previously presented) The method of claim 120 wherein:
the person viewing the display of the images is an orthodontic practitioner; and
the feedback information includes information of approval by the orthodontic practitioner
of the suggested post-treatment tooth positions and orientations toward which the
teeth of the patient are to be moved by the appliance.

122.(previously presented) The method of claim 120 wherein:

the feedback information includes information of a change in position or orientation of at least one tooth from the suggested post-treatment tooth positions and orientations toward which the at least one tooth of the patient is to be moved by the appliance.

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123.(previously presented) The method of claim 122 further comprising:
providing revised images of the teeth of the patient for redisplay in revised post-treatment
tooth positions and orientations based on the suggested tooth positions and
orientations as changed in accordance with the feedback information.

124.(currently amended) A method of providing a custom orthodontic appliance configured to the individual anatomy of a patient for repositioning teeth of [a] the patient, the method comprising:

providing <u>for display on a computer screen</u> images of the teeth of the patient in suggested post-treatment tooth positions and orientations that are based on three-dimensional information of the shapes of the teeth of the patient;

receiving feedback information on the suggested post-treatment positions and orientations from a person who has <u>interactively</u> viewed a display of the provided images <u>on a computer screen</u> wherein the feedback information includes information selected from the group consisting essentially one or more of:

information approving <u>unchanged</u> at least some tooth positions and orientations toward which the teeth of the patient are to be moved by the appliance, and

information changing at least one tooth position or orientation toward which the teeth of the patient are to be moved by the appliance; and providing a custom orthodontic appliance configured to reposition teeth of the patient based on the suggested tooth positions and orientations in accordance with the feedback information.

125.(previously presented) The method of claim 124 further comprising: providing revised images of the teeth of the patient in revised post-treatment tooth positions and orientations based on the suggested tooth positions and orientations as changed in accordance with the feedback information.

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126.(previously presented) The method of claim 125 further comprising: receiving from a person who has viewed a display of the provided revised images feedback information approving the revised tooth positions and orientations toward which the teeth of the patient are to be moved by the appliance.

127.(previously presented) The method of claim 124 further comprising: providing the person viewing the display with a capability to enter the feedback information.

128.(previously presented) The method of claim 124 wherein: the person viewing the display of the images is an orthodontic practitioner.

129.(new) A method of providing a custom orthodontic appliance, configured to the individual anatomy of a patient, for orthodontically repositioning teeth of the patient, the method comprising:

- providing digital data of suggested post-treatment tooth positions and orientations of teeth of the patient that are based on three-dimensional information of the shapes of the teeth of the patient;
- providing images of teeth of the patient from the digital data, for display on at least one computer screen to an orthodontic practitioner in the suggested post-treatment tooth positions and orientations for either approval for a custom orthodontic appliance for the patient or for revision;
- receiving from an orthodontic practitioner, who has interactively viewed on a computer screen a display of the provided images, feedback information approving the suggested post-treatment positions and orientations; and
- providing a custom orthodontic appliance configured to the individual anatomy of the patient to reposition teeth of the patient based on the suggested tooth positions and orientations approved in accordance with the feedback information.

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130.(new) The method of claim 129 wherein the receiving of the feedback information approving the suggested post-treatment positions and orientations for a custom orthodontic appliance for the patient includes:

receiving from an orthodontic practitioner, who has interactively viewed on a computer screen a display of the provided images, feedback information of revisions to the suggested post-treatment positions and orientations;

providing further images of teeth of the patient based on the three dimensional information, for redisplay on the computer display device to an orthodontic practitioner, in suggested post-treatment tooth positions and orientations that have been changed in accordance with the feedback information of the revisions; and receiving from an orthodontic practitioner, who has viewed a redisplay of the provided further images on a computer screen, the feedback information approving the suggested post-treatment positions and orientations, as changed in accordance with the feedback information of the revisions.

131.(new) The method of claim 130 wherein:

the providing of digital data of suggested post-treatment tooth positions and orientations of teeth of the patient that are based on three-dimensional information of the shapes of the teeth of the patient includes providing for display on a computer screen, with interaction by an operator, the digital data; and

the orthodontic practitioner who has interactively viewed on a computer screen a display of the provided images is a person other than the operator.

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132.(new) The method of claim 129 wherein:

the receiving of feedback information from an orthodontic practitioner approving the suggested post-treatment positions and orientations includes receiving feedback information wherein the feedback information can include either information approving without change the suggested tooth positions and orientations toward which the teeth of the patient are to be moved by the appliance or information modifying at least one tooth position or orientation toward which the teeth of the patient are to be moved by the appliance.